



# CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

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## Department of Toxic Substances Control

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For Immediate Release

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### **Department Issues \$123,000 Enforcement Order to Lodi Chrome**

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control today announced the issuance of an enforcement order with a penalty of \$123,000 to (Reggie Mason) d.b.a. Lodi Chrome for five violations of hazardous waste management laws revealed during a DTSC inspection.

Lodi Chrome, located at 316 North Main Street in Lodi, generates, handles, treats, stores and/or disposes of hazardous waste at the facility.

The facility generates hazardous waste in the form of “degreasing sludge” that is recovered from the bottom of an alkaline cleaning tank used to degrease parts before electroplating. In addition, the facility generates fine powder from chrome polishing operations.

During a DTSC inspection on December 22, 2003 the following violations were noted:

- Failure to remove significant quantities of spilled hazardous waste plating bath chemicals from the floor of the facility. The concrete floor was not coated with an impermeable barrier to prevent the migration of spilled chemicals into the underlying soil, and the floor had visible signs of corrosion and chemical staining.
- Failure to properly dispose of spilled hazardous fine powder waste from chrome polishing floor of the facility.
- Failure to make a waste determination for polishing dust generated in chrome polishing operations. Mr. Mason had been disposing of waste polishing dust by putting it into a trash bin along with regular garbage destined for disposal at the County landfill. Waste analysis by a laboratory revealed that the polishing dust is hazardous waste due to the concentration of chrome, nickel, lead, copper and zinc.
- Caused the transfer of hazardous polishing dust waste to a county landfill that does not hold a valid hazardous waste disposal permit.
- Failure to complete a hazardous waste manifest for hazardous polishing dust waste sent to the county landfill.

On February 16, 2004 Mr. Mason submitted documentation to DTSC showing that the violations had been addressed or corrected.

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***The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.***